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DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED] SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

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1. In late February 1950 the 17 Divisional Headquarters, 6 Army Labor Battalion,* and 22 Infantry Regiment were stationed in the Tihua area.
2. Toward the end of February 1950 Tihua Area Headquarters announced that all civilians in military employment were to return to their own districts, where they would be absorbed in the local agricultural projects being carried out by the military forces, or taken into the new militia organized in every hsien district. Married men were to be used in their own villages; unmarried men at Headquarters and on special duties. No militia units were to be moved without concurrence of Area Headquarters, and no individuals were to be transferred without that of the District Security Police.**
3. Officials of the Sinkiang Provincial Government were concerned because, up to the beginning of March 1950, all mass efforts had been carried out by Chinese citizens. Chinese Communist efforts to influence the Moslem population by lectures and speeches at Party meetings had thus far been unsuccessful. It was feared that the use of stronger methods might result in the establishment of a Moslem Autonomous Republic with its eastern boundary at Hsinghsinghsia (95-09, 41-48).
4. To prevent the flight of capital to other Chinese areas, a complete ban has been ordered on the export of silver and gold beyond Hsinghsinghsia.

25X1A * [REDACTED] Comment. Labor battalions seem to have a penal role, being composed of former Kuomintang troops and of those who fail to attain the labor targets set by Headquarters.

25X1A ** [REDACTED] Comment. This scheme seems similar to the conscription of all healthy males practiced in the Ili area during the past four years.

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